

I Claim:

1. A device for separating copies of a flat sheet material, the device comprising:

paths on which the copies of the flat sheet material are mutually adjacently conveyed, said paths defining a common wedge-shaped region;

a transfer region in which one of the copies of the flat sheet material pass over to the respective path whereon the other of the copies is conveyed; and

a guiding device accommodated in said wedge-shaped region for maintaining a separation of the copies.

2. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein the paths whereon the copies of the flat sheet material are conveyed are jacket surfaces of cylinders.

3. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein the path whereon one of the copies of the flat sheet material is conveyed is an enveloping curve of a transfer element formed with a setback contour.

4. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device serves for performing an actuating movement for

effecting a deflection of a following copy of the copies of the flat sheet material out of the path thereof.

5. The separating device according to claim 1, including a device at an end of said guiding device for injecting separating air into the wedge-shaped region, said end of said guiding device being assigned to a transfer center line between the paths.

6. The separating device according to claim 5, wherein said separating air is formed as free jets emerging from said tip of said guiding device.

7. The separating device according to claim 5, wherein separating elements of said separating air have a low flow velocity, and volume flows of said separating air are high.

8. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device is formed as part of a storage device for accommodating a copy of the flat sheet material.

9. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device is part of a guide element located underneath a transfer element that is disposed upline from an impression cylinder.

10. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device is constructed as a guide tongue movable translatorily into the wedge-shaped region in a direction towards a transfer center line.

11. The separating device according to claim 10, wherein said guide tongue comprises a braking/catching hook at an end of said guide tongue facing towards said transfer center line.

12. The separating device as claimed in claim 10, wherein said guide tongue is formed with a planar surface and a curved surface, said curved surface facing towards a following copy of the copies of the flat sheet material.

13. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device is adjustable from a rest position into a position wherein it deflects a following copy of the flat sheet material out of the path thereof, and extends into the path of the following copy of the copies of the flat sheet material.

14. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device is formed with a surface movable relative to a following copy of the copies, and including a cam control system via which said surface of said guiding device is activatable.

15. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device is formed as a blowing element displaceable in a translatory direction and extending into the path of a following copy of the copies of the flat sheet material.

16. The separating device according to claim 1, wherein said guiding device is adjustable into an engaged position thereof wherein, by deflecting a following copy of the copies of the flat sheet material, a copy of the flat sheet material is stored in the path thereof above a storage device to beyond a transfer center line.

17. The device as claimed in claim 8, wherein said guiding device is formed with suction openings for attracting by suction and braking the copy of the copies of the flat sheet material passing the storage device.

18. A printing unit having a device for separating copies of a flat sheet material, the device comprising:

paths on which the copies of the flat sheet material are mutually adjacently conveyed, said paths defining a common wedge-shaped region;

a transfer region in which one of the copies of the flat sheet material pass over to the respective path whereon the other of the copies is conveyed; and

a guiding device accommodated in said wedge-shaped region for maintaining a separation of the copies.

19. A rotary printing machine having a device for separating copies of a flat sheet material, the device comprising:

paths on which the copies of the flat sheet material are mutually adjacently conveyed, said paths defining a common wedge-shaped region;

a transfer region in which one of the copies of the flat sheet material pass over to the respective path whereon the other of the copies is conveyed; and

a guiding device accommodated in said wedge-shaped region for maintaining a separation of the copies.

20. A multicolor rotary printing machine having a device for separating copies of a flat sheet material, the device comprising:

paths on which the copies of the flat sheet material are mutually adjacently conveyed, said paths defining a common wedge-shaped region;

a transfer region in which one of the copies of the flat sheet material pass over to the respective path whereon the other of the copies is conveyed; and

a guiding device accommodated in said wedge-shaped region for maintaining a separation of the copies.